

From: Mike DeRosa
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/16/02 2:08pm
Subject: regarding the Microsoft Settlement . . .

I've read that you are accepting comments from personal computer users regarding the Microsoft anti trust case, and I'd like to make one or two, very briefly.

I purchased my first personal computer in 1986, and have owned six others.
I understand Microsoft's desire to keep it's programming code secret, but if they are going to supply the operating system for 9 out 10 computers they must be forced to allow users and vendors to have access to the basic parts of that operating system, just as a car owner or mechanic has a right to to know how an internal combustion engine works, and automotive manufacturers have an obligation to provide dealers with manuals and parts.

It's almost that simple.
Microsoft's practice of "hiding" parts of their programming code violates anti trust laws and must not be permitted.
I don't advocate breaking up the company, I just want to see a level playing field, and forcing Microsoft to document it's "applications programming interface" (API's) would allow truly free enterprise in the software business.

Thank you for listening, and I wish you good luck and wisdom in this very important case.

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